

The City of Traverse City

Office of the City Clerk

GOVERNMENT CENTER
400 Boardman Avenue
Traverse City, Michigan
49684

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April 14, 1999

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

Doc-99-25

Mr. William Kennard
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919-M Street, NW
Washington DC, 20554

The Honorable Spencer Abraham
245 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Consitution Avenue
Washington, DC 20510

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MAY 20 1999

The Honorable Carl Levin
317 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-2201

The Honorable Bart Stupak
United States Senate
459 SROB
Washington, DC 20510-2202

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

The Honorable Jason Allen
House of Representatives
Capitol Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

The Honorable George McManus
605 Farnum Building
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Messrs. Kennard, Abraham, Levin, Stupak, Allen and McManus:

At the Traverse City City Commission regular meeting of April 5, 1999, the City Commission approved a Resolution In Support of New Licenses For Low Power FM Community Radio.

The enclosed Resolution requests that you support the Federal Communication Commission's proposal to reintroduce Low Power FM Radio broadcasting to our country.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call.

Sincerely,

Debbra A. Curtiss TE

Debbra A. Curtiss
City Clerk
(616) 922-4480

Enclosure
cc: Mark Nixon
CC 4/5/99

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**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF NEW LICENSES
FOR LOW POWER FM COMMUNITY RADIO**

- WHEREAS, the City of Traverse City is committed to the principles of free speech guaranteed in the First Amendment to the United States Constitution; and
- WHEREAS, citizens of our community hold the broadcast airwaves to be public property and a public trust; and
- WHEREAS, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has not made affordable, Low Power(<100 watts) FM broadcast frequencies available for community use since 1978 when regulatory changes eliminated Class D FM licenses for less than 100 watts of power; and
- WHEREAS, the passage of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 has led to an unprecedented consolidation of broadcast industry ownership, and a marked decrease in both local and minority ownership of radio stations and origination of programming; and
- WHEREAS, the rights of free speech and a free press are threatened when access to communications media is concentrated in the hands of the few; and
- WHEREAS, the Traverse City community has already demonstrated its commitment to local access through its enthusiastic support for the local community access television, TCTV-2, and its local low power radio station WNMC; and
- WHEREAS, the FCC is now hearing public comment on a proposal to once again offer simple, affordable, commercial and non-commercial Low Power FM broadcast licenses(FCC's MM Docket No. 95-25); and
- WHEREAS, commercial and non-commercial radio stations operating under such a license could provide a community voice to individuals, musicians, artist, writers, activists, students, and points of view which are presently economically barred from access to their own above-mentioned airwaves; and
- WHEREAS, issuance of said licenses would constitute a net benefit to the social, cultural, and political life of Traverse City and its citizens, and to communities across the State of Michigan and the United States; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED**, that the City of Traverse City supports the concept of Low Power radio stations, and urges the FCC to fulfill its mandate as guardian of a public resource, and to enact a licensing regulation to grant affordable, simple, commercial and non-commercial broadcast licenses to citizens of this and other communities in this country; and further, be it